

now presenting

SELECT FROM THE FINEST SHOPS SO YOU CAN GIVE YOUR VERY BEST. BY HILARY WEISSMAN

Relish

Fashion Week runway shows in September highlighted outstanding lines from Joseph Altuzarra, Sophie Theallet, and Jil Sander, all featured designers at Relish. The store has two floors of stylish pieces for the sophisticated Washington man or woman.
3312 Cady's Alley NW, 202-333-5343; relishdc.com

Dalton Brody

Dalton Brody helps Washingtonians establish inviting homes with the full line of William Yeoward's select crystal, glass, linen, and porcelain lines. You can check off your entire gift list at this accessory and gift retailer.
3412 Idaho Ave. NW, 202-244-7197; daltonbrody.com

M29 Lifestyle

For the most special people in your life, this boutique offers the most special gifts. All items are hand-picked, a mix of emerging designers and timeless treasures.
2800 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, 202-295-2829

Sterling & Burke

Distinguished leather goods make the ideal present for the refined businessman on your gift list. Here you can find sturdy, streamlined briefcases, satchels, carryalls, and custom luggage from designers Swaine Adeney, Daines & Hathaway, and Mulholland Brothers.
2824 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, 202-333-2266; sterlingandburke.com

Fahrney's Pens

Channel the founding fathers and gift a set of luxury fountain pens. The capital's premier writing supply store also offers leather goods, rare historical framed autographs, watches, and desk accessories.
1317 F St. NW, 202-628-9525; fahrneypens.com

Jo Malone

Creating lasting memories begins with the right aroma. Fresh and crisp, each scent from this British brand captures the essence of luxury. Even better, the store offers personalized scents as well as chic presentation with its signature black bow.
Neiman Marcus, 5300 Wisconsin Ave. NW, 202-966-9700; jomalone.com

Anthropologie

The District's sophisticated yet contemporary fashionistas look to Anthropologie for classic A-lines and feminine cuts, unique accessories, and an air of casual elegance. Its home décor line also provides the best in house-warming and hostess gifts.
The Shops at Wisconsin Place, Chevy Chase, 301-654-1481; anthropologie.com

Tiny Jewel Box

Considering making a holiday-season proposal to your special someone? Tiny Jewel Box provides an informative men's shopping guide for antique and designer engagement rings and wedding bands. The shop also

has a varied and unique selection of gifts for home or office.
1147 Connecticut Ave. NW, 202-393-2747; tinyjewelbox.com

Amethyst

Visit this Zen lavender boutique for first-class designer jewelry. In addition to shopping for beautiful birthstones and popular lines like Heather Moore, Lika Behar, and Branch, you can give the gift of generosity with its Flowers for Haiti collection.
4808 Bethesda Ave., Bethesda, 301-907-6871; shopamethyst.com

Second Story Books

This bookstore has one of the world's largest collections of used, out-of-print rare books, a mecca for your beloved bookworm. Although it has expanded to two District-area locations, the collection still feels like an unearthed treasure trove.
2000 P St. NW, 202-659-8884; 12160 Parklawn Dr., Rockville, 301-770-0477; secondstorybooks.com

Hermès of Paris

From the Champs-Élysées to Pennsylvania Avenue, the elegant Birkin will stand the test of time. But Hermès can also outfit your favorite golfer, your home, even your iPad. The most versatile gift from the Parisian label: its signature printed silk scarf, adding panache to every ensemble.
The Shops at Fairfax Square, 8075 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, 703-506-4546; hermes.com CF



Tiny Jewel Box, a gem of a shop

THE GIFT OF GIVING

Suzie Clayton, owner of Dalton Brody, on the perfect catchall gift



"Because gift givers and recipients are all unique, there is really no such thing as a universal gift. But we have a variety of great gift ideas that work for either men or women: picture frames, wallets, scarves, or great gourmet foods. One of our favorite gifts is a beautiful box: For men it can store watches, cuff links, pictures, pocket items, or remotes; for women it could be jewelry, keepsakes, office supplies, or silk scarves. They come in all sizes and colors and are both gorgeous to look at and very functional."

Holiday spirit at Dalton Brody

